

**** MEDIA RELEASE ****

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Logging Operations To Begin Along Keystone Gulch Road

Silverthorne, CO (Thursday, June 16, 2011) – Hazard tree mitigation activities along the Keystone Gulch Road west of Keystone Resort will start tomorrow, Friday, June 17th, and continue through next Friday, June, 24th. The work will be carried out by a timber contractor whose crews will be felling trees along the first three miles of the Keystone Gulch Road (FDR #175). The public is encouraged to avoid the area if possible, as delays are likely.

The contractor is removing hazardous trees for public safety along the busy road corridor. Workers will perform logging activities, including tree felling and log hauling, during normal business hours every day next week. The contractor will not be working over the weekend. Heavy truck traffic should be expected in the area for the duration of the project. The public is asked to please stay away from operations.

According to District Ranger Jan Cutts, "This work is part of ongoing projects on Dillon Ranger District this summer to mitigate the safety and fire hazards posed by large swaths of forest impacted by the mountain pine beetle. In addition to clearing hazard trees on roads and trails, the Forest Service also has ongoing work in the White River Wildland Urban Interface Stewardship Project (approximately 1300 acres) and the Keystone Stewardship Project (approximately 1000 acres).

The public should expect additional hazard tree removal work on roads and trails across the Dillon Ranger District throughout the summer.

Please contact the Dillon Ranger Station at 970-468-5400 with any questions.

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